



## MASSACHUSETTS RARE AND ENDANGERED PLANTS

### ROUNDLEAF SHADBUSH

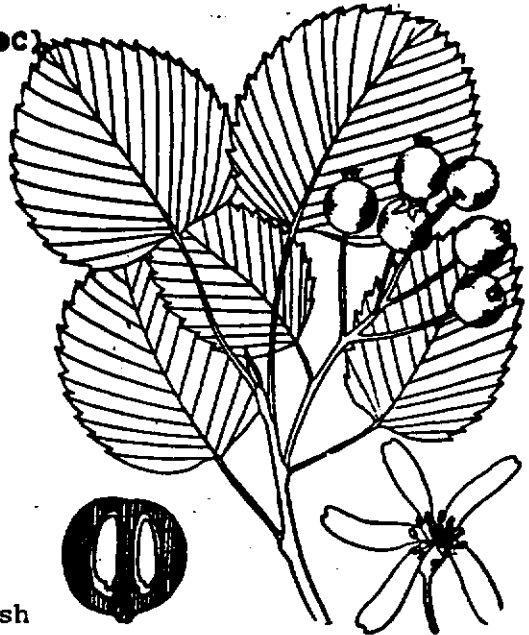
(Amelanchier sanguinea (Pursh) DC.)

#### DESCRIPTION

Roundleaf Shadbush is a low shrub, approximately 3-10 ft. (1-3 m.) high with arching or straggling stems. The leaves are alternate, coarsely toothed and borne on reddish branchlets. At maturity, the leaves (1 to 4 inches long) are green and smooth on the upper surface, paler and slightly hairy underneath. Five petaled white flowers are produced in May and dark purple, juicy berries in June and July. Roundleaf Shadbush sometimes spreads by underground stems, forming loose patches.

#### SIMILAR SPECIES

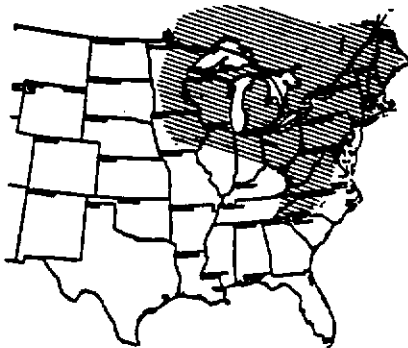
It is difficult to distinguish between species of this genus because many species hybridize. Roundleaf Shadbush can be singled out by the combination of three characteristics: conspicuously circularly shaped leaves, coarse teeth (only 4-5 per centimeter of leaf edge), and petals which are 10-15 mm. long.



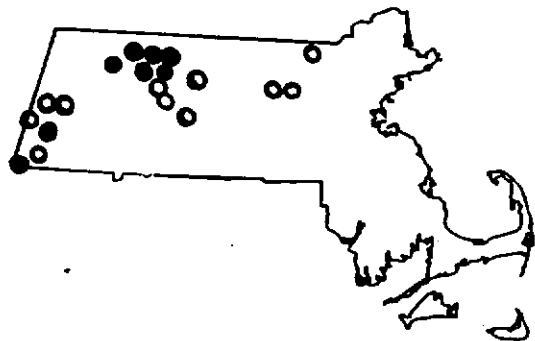
Britton, E. L. and A. N. S. Brown. An Illustrated Flora of the Northern United States and Canada. 1913. Reprinted by Dover Publications, Inc. 1974 reprint of 1913 ed.

#### HABITAT

Roundleaf Shadbush inhabits rocky or gravelly sites, especially where soils are calcareous to circumneutral. In Massachusetts, it prefers exposed river beds, riverside ledges, and open to semi-shaded montane ledges. Roundleaf Shadbush has also been found in acid soils of rocky montane ridges and gravelly eskers. Associated species include Alnus spp. (Alders), Prunus pumila var. depressa (Sandbar Cherry), Campanula rotundifolia (Harebell), Aquilegia canadense (Columbine), Aronia melanocarpa (Black Chokeberry), Ostrya virginiana (Hop Hornbeam) and Solidago bicolor (Silverrod).



Distribution of Roundleaf Shadbush



● Verified since 1978  
○ Reported prior to 1978

Distribution in Massachusetts by Town

## ROUNDLEAF SHADBUSH (continued)

### RANGE

Roundleaf Shadbush ranges from southern Quebec, west to the Thunder Bay Region of Ontario, south to western New England, along the mountains to northern North Carolina and west to northern Ohio, Wisconsin and southern Iowa.

### POPULATION STATUS

Roundleaf Shadbush is considered a species of "Special Concern" in Massachusetts. Nine current occurrences (1978 to present) have been reported and thirteen historical occurrences were recorded. Relative lack of its preferred habitat (riverside ledges), is a significant factor contributing to the rarity of Roundleaf Shadbush.